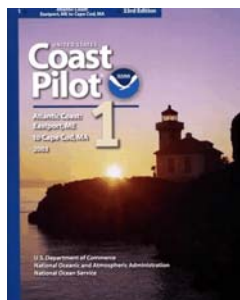


Extracts from the U.S. COAST PILOT® (March 2004)



These extracts are from CP 1, 2004, 34th Edition. Mariners should consult U. S. Coast Guard Notices to Mariners for critical corrections (available at <http://nauticalcharts.noaa.gov/nsd/cpdownload.htm> with links to download to Critical Corrections for each Coast Pilot). The National Marine Fishers Service (NOAA Fisheries) has annotated these extracts to provide amplifying information where appropriate; this information will appear in future editions of CP 1. Annotations are in *{bracketed, italic text}*. While information provided by these extracts is intended to assist maritime managers and mariners, they should not be used as a substitute for official NOAA, U.S. Coast Guard, National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency, or Canadian Coast Guard publications.

1

COAST PILOT 1

CHAPTER 2

Title 33, Ship Reporting Systems Subpart A—General

§169.1 What is the purpose of this subpart?

This subpart prescribes the requirements for mandatory ship reporting systems. Ship reporting systems are used to provide, gather, or exchange information through radio reports. The information is used to provide data for many purposes including, but not limited to: navigation safety, environmental protection, vessel traffic services, search and rescue, weather forecasting and prevention of marine pollution.

§169.5 What terms are defined?

Gross tons means vessel tonnage measured in accordance with the method utilized by the flag state administration of that vessel.

Mandatory ship reporting system means a ship reporting system that requires the participation of specified vessels or classes of vessels, and that is established by a government or governments after adoption of a proposed system by the International Maritime Organization (IMO) as complying with all requirements of regulation V/8–1 of the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, 1974, as amended (SOLAS), except paragraph (e) thereof.

Self-propelled ships means ships propelled by mechanical means.

Shore-based authority means the government appointed office or offices that will receive the reports made by ships entering each of the mandatory ship reporting systems. The office or offices will be responsible for the management and coordination of the system, interaction with participating ships, and the safe and effective operation of the system. Such an authority may or may not be an authority in charge of a vessel traffic service.

§169.10 What geographic coordinates are used?

Geographic coordinates expressed in terms of latitude or longitude, or both, are not intended for plotting on maps or charts where the referenced horizontal datum is the North American Datum of 1983 (NAD 83), unless such geographic coordinates are expressly labeled NAD 83. Geographic coordinates without the NAD 83 reference may be plotted on maps or charts referenced to NAD 83 only after application of the appropriate corrections that are published on the particular map or chart being used.

Subpart B—Establishment of Two Mandatory Ship Reporting Systems for the Protection of North Atlantic Right Whales

§169.100 What mandatory ship reporting systems are established by this subpart?

This subpart prescribes requirements for the establishment and maintenance of two mandatory ship reporting systems for the protection of the endangered North Atlantic right whale (also known as the

northern right whale). These two systems are designated for certain areas of the East Coast of the United States. One system is located in the northeast and is identified as WHALESNORTH. The other system is located in the southeast and is identified as WHALESSOUTH.

Note: 50 CFR 224.103(c) contains requirements and procedures concerning North Atlantic right whale approach limitations and avoidance procedures.

§169.102 Who is the shore-based authority?

The U.S. Coast Guard is the shore-based authority for these mandatory ship reporting systems.

§169.105 Where is the northeastern reporting system located?

Geographical boundaries of the northeastern area include the waters of Cape Cod Bay, Massachusetts Bay, and the Great South Channel east and southeast of Massachusetts. The coordinates (NAD 83) of the area are as follows: from a point on Cape Ann, Massachusetts at

42/39'N, 70/37'W; then northeast to

42/45'N, 70/13'W; then southeast to

42/10'N, 68/31'W; then south to

41/00'N, 68/31'W; then west to

41/00'N, 69/17'W; then northwest to

42/05'N, 70/02'W, then west to

42/04'N, 70/10'W; and then along the Massachusetts shoreline of Cape Cod Bay and Massachusetts Bay back to the point on Cape Ann at

42/39'N, 70/37'W.

§169.110 When is the northeastern reporting system in effect?

The mandatory ship reporting system in the northeastern United States operates year-round.

§169.115 Where is the southeastern reporting system located?

Geographical boundaries of the southeastern area include coastal waters within about 25 nautical miles (45 kilometers) along a 90-nautical mile (170-kilometer) stretch of the Atlantic seaboard in Florida and Georgia. The area coordinates (NAD 83) extends from the shoreline east to longitude 80/51.6'W with the southern and northern boundaries at latitude 30/00'N and 31/27'N., respectively.

§169.120 When is the southeastern reporting system in effect?

The mandatory ship reporting system in the southeastern United States operates during the period beginning on November 15 each year through April 16 of the following year.

§169.125 What classes of ships are required to make reports?

Each self-propelled ship of 300 gross tons or greater must participate in the reporting systems, except government ships exempted from reporting by regulation V/8–1(c) of SOLAS. However, exempt ships are encouraged to participate in the reporting systems.

§169.130 When are ships required to make reports?

Participating ships must report to the shore-based authority upon entering the area covered by a reporting system. Additional reports are not necessary for movements made within a system or for ships exiting a system.

§169.135 How must the reports be made?

(a) A ship equipped with INMARSAT C must report in IMO standard format as provided in §169.140 in table 169.140.

(b) A ship not equipped with INMARSAT C must report to the Coast Guard using other means, listed below in order of precedence—

(1) Narrow band direct printing (SITOR).

(2) HF voice communication, or

(3) MF or VHF voice communications.

(c) SITOR or HF reports made directly to the Coast Guard's Communications Area Master Station Atlantic (CAMSLANT) in Chesapeake, VA, or MF or VHF reports made to Coast Guard activities or groups, should only be made by ships not equipped with INMARSAT C. Ships in this category must

provide all the required information to the Coast Guard watchstander.

§169.140 What information must be included in the report?

Each ship report made to the shore-based authority must follow the standard reporting and format requirements listed in this section in table 169.140. Current email addresses and telex numbers are published annually in the U.S. Coast Pilot.

Table 169.140 Requirements for ship reports

Telegraphy	Function	Information required
Name of system	System identifier	Ship reporting system WHALESNORTH or WHALESSOUTH
M	INMARST number	Vessel INMARSAT number
A	Ship	The name, call sign or ship station identity, IMO number, and flag of the vessel.
B	Date and time of event	A 6-digit group giving day of month (first two digits), hours and minutes (last four digits).
E	True course	A 3-digit group.
F	Speed in knots and tenths of knots	A 3-digit group.
H	Date, time and point of entry into system	Entry time expressed as in (B) and entry position expressed as- (1) a 4-digit group giving latitude in degrees and minutes suffixed with N (north) or S (south) and a 5-digit group giving longitude in degrees and minutes suffixed with E (east) or W (west); or (2) True bearing (first 3 digits) and distance (state distance) in nautical miles from a clearly identified landmark (state landmark).
I	Destination and expected time of arrival	Name of port and date group expressed as in (B).
L	Route information	Intended track.

TITLE 50, WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

PART 222 - General Endangered and Threatened Marine Species

Subpart A—Introduction and General Provisions

§222.101 Purpose and scope of regulations.

(a) The regulations of parts 222, 223, and 224 of this chapter implement the Endangered Species Act (Act), and govern the taking, possession, transportation, sale, purchase, barter, exportation, importation of, and other requirements pertaining to wildlife and plants under the jurisdiction of the Secretary of Commerce and determined to be threatened or endangered pursuant to section 4(a) of the Act. These regulations are implemented by the National Marine Fisheries Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric

Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce. This part pertains to general provisions and definitions. Specifically, parts 223 and 224 pertain to provisions to threatened species and endangered species, respectively. Part 226 enumerates designated critical habitat for endangered and threatened species. Certain of the endangered and threatened marine species enumerated in §§224.102 and 223.102 are included in Appendix I or II to the Convention on International Trade of Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora. The importation, exportation, and re-exportation of such species are subject to additional regulations set forth at 50 CFR part 23, chapter I.

(b) For rules and procedures relating to species determined to be threatened or endangered under the jurisdiction of the Secretary of the Interior, see 50 CFR parts 10 through 17. For rules and procedures relating to the general implementation of the Act jointly by the Departments of the Interior and Commerce and for certain species under the joint jurisdiction of both the Secretaries of the Interior and Commerce, see 50 CFR Chapter IV. Marine mammals listed as endangered or threatened and subject to these regulations may also be subject to additional requirements pursuant to the Marine Mammal Protection Act (for regulations implementing that act, see 50 CFR part 216).

(c) No statute or regulation of any state shall be construed to relieve a person from the restrictions, conditions, and requirements contained in parts 222, 223, and 224 of this chapter. In addition, nothing in parts 222, 223, and 224 of this chapter, including any permit issued pursuant thereto, shall be construed to relieve a person from any other requirements imposed by a statute or regulation of any state or of the United States, including any applicable health, quarantine, agricultural, or customs laws or regulations, or any other National Marine Fisheries Service enforced statutes or regulations.

PART 224-Endangered Marine and Anadromous Species

§224.103 Special prohibitions for endangered marine mammals.

(c) *Approaching North Atlantic right whales.*

(1) *Prohibitions.* Except as provided under paragraph (b)(3) of this section, it is unlawful for any person subject to the jurisdiction of the United States to commit, attempt to commit, to solicit another to commit, or cause to be committed any of the following acts:

(i) Approach (including by interception) within 500 yards (460 m) of a right whale by vessel, aircraft, or any other means;

(ii) Fail to undertake required right whale avoidance measures specified under paragraph (b)(2) of this section.

(2) *Right whale avoidance measures.* Except as provided under paragraph (b)(3) of this section, the following avoidance measures must be taken if within 500 yards (460 m) of a right whale:

(i) If underway, a vessel must steer a course away from the right whale and immediately leave the area at a slow safe speed.

(ii) An aircraft must take a course away from the right whale and immediately leave the area at a constant airspeed.

(3) *Exceptions.* The following exceptions apply to this section, but any person who claims the applicability of an exception has the burden of proving that the exception applies:

(i) Paragraphs (b)(1) and (b)(2) of this section do not apply if a right whale approach is authorized by the National Marine Fisheries Service through a permit issued under part 222, subpart C, of this chapter (General Permit Procedures) or through a similar authorization.

(ii) Paragraphs (b)(1) and (b)(2) of this section do not apply where compliance would create an imminent and serious threat to a person, vessel, or aircraft.

(iii) Paragraphs (b)(1) and (b)(2) of this section do not apply when approaching to investigate a right whale entanglement or injury, or to assist in the disentanglement or rescue of a right whale, provided that permission is received from the National Marine Fisheries Service or designee prior to the approach.

(iv) Paragraphs (b)(1) and (b)(2) of this section do not apply to an aircraft unless the aircraft is conducting whale watch activities.

(v) Paragraph (b)(2) of this section does not apply to the extent that a vessel is restricted in her ability to maneuver and, because of the restriction, cannot comply with paragraph (b)(2) of this section.

Part 226–Designated Critical Habitat

§226.101 Purpose and scope.

The regulations contained in this part identify those habitats designated by the Secretary of Commerce

as critical under section 4 of the Act, for endangered and threatened species under the jurisdiction of the Secretary of Commerce. Those species are enumerated at §223.102 of this chapter, if threatened and at Sec. 224.101 of this chapter, if endangered. For regulations pertaining to the designation of critical habitat, see part 424 of this title, and for regulations pertaining to prohibition against the adverse modification or destruction of critical habitat, see part 402 of this title. Maps and charts identifying designated critical habitat that are not provided in this section may be obtained upon request to the Office of Protected Resources (see §222.102, definition of "Office of Protected Resources").

§226.203 Critical habitat for North Atlantic right whales

North Atlantic Right Whale (*Eubalaena glacialis*)

(a) **Great South Channel.** The area bounded by

41/40'N., 69/45'W.;

41/00'N., 69/05'W.;

41/38'N., 68/13'W.; and

42/10'N., 68/31'W.

(b) **Cape Cod Bay, Massachusetts.** The area bounded by

42/04.8'N., 70/10'W.;

42/12'N., 70/15'W.;

42/12'N., 70/30'W.;

41/46.8'N., 70/30'W. and on the south and east by the interior shore line of Cape Cod, Massachusetts.

(c) **Southeastern United States.** The Coastal waters between 31/15'N., and 30/15'N. from the coast out 15 nautical miles; and the coastal waters between 30/15'N. and 28/00'N. from the coast out 5 nautical miles.

CHAPTER 3

North Atlantic right whales

North Atlantic right whales are the world's most endangered large whales. They can be found seasonally from Canada to Florida. Right whales migrate along the east coast between the northern feeding grounds off New England and Canada, and the southern calving grounds off Florida, Georgia, and South Carolina. The southern migration occurs in the fall / early winter and the northern migration takes place in winter / early spring.

Ship strikes and entanglement in fishing gear are the right whales two primary sources of human related mortality. Right whales are highly vulnerable to being struck by ships; they mate, rest, feed, and nurse their young at the surface, and often do not move out of the way of oncoming ships. Calves returning north with their mothers, from the southern calving grounds, appear to be particularly susceptible to collision with ships.

Seasonal occurrence of North Atlantic right whales: In seasons and in areas where right whales may occur, vessel operators should maintain a sharp lookout for right whales. In the Gulf of Maine right whales are found in the following areas: the Bay of Fundy (Grand Manan Basin) (peak season: June through December), Platts Bank (peak season: April through June), Jeffreys Ledge (peak season: July through December), Cashes Ledge and Fippennies Ledge (peak season: June through mid-December), Stellwagen Bank (peak season: July through September). The Grand Manan Basin is a Canadian whale conservation area. Stellwagen Bank and the southeastern third of Jeffreys Ledge are located in the federally designated Gerry E. Studds Stellwagen Bank National Marine Sanctuary. Throughout the year, in Massachusetts and Cape Cod Bays, mariners approaching Boston from all directions should be alert to right whales and proceed with caution. Two areas federally designated as critical habitats for right whales are Cape Cod Bay (peak season: January through April) and the Great South Channel (peak season: March through July). Seasonal right whale advisories and sighting reports are broadcast periodically for these areas by Coast Guard Broadcast Notice to Mariners, NAVTEX, NOAA Weather Radio, Cape Cod Canal Vessel Traffic Control, the Bay of Fundy Traffic Control, and are included in the return message from the Right Whale Mandatory Ship Reporting (MSR) system.

Description of North Atlantic right whale: The species reaches lengths of 45 to {60} feet and is black in color. The best field identification marks are a broad back with no dorsal fin, irregular bumpy white

patches (callosities) on the head, and a distinctive two-column V-Shaped blow. They have paddle like flippers nearly as wide as they are long, and a broad, deeply notched tail, (see photographs and diagrams below.)



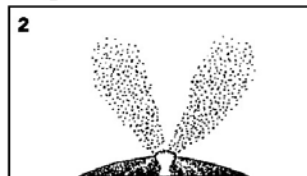
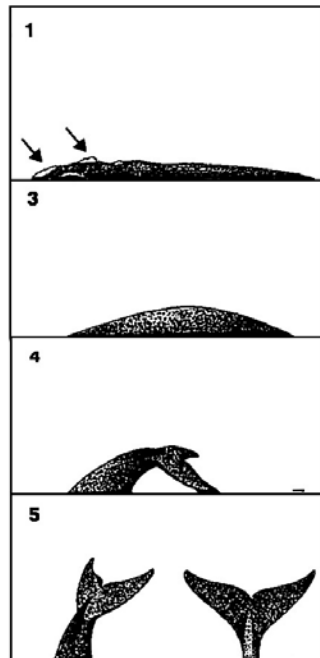
unique paddle-shaped flippers



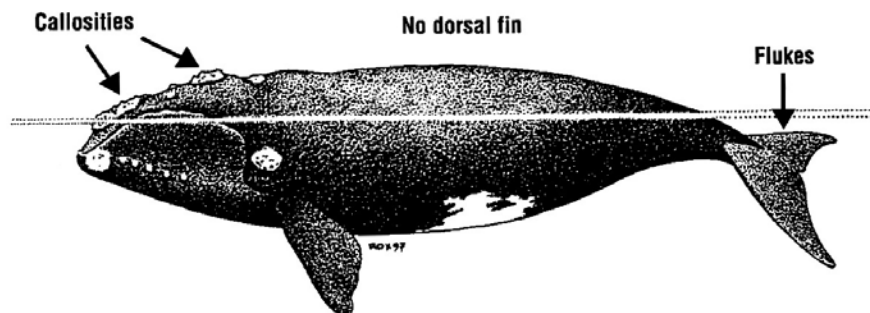
The right
Note the right whales' deeply notched fluke

whales'

North Atlantic right whale



- 1) Whitish patches of raised and roughened skin (called callosities) on top of the head (see arrows)
- 2) V-shaped blow easily visible from in front or behind the whale
- 3) No dorsal fin on the back
- 4) Tail flukes often lifted vertically when the animal dives
- 5) All black tail on the top and underside



**Sighting
Advisory**

System: As weather and conditions permit, a dedicated seasonal-program (January through the end of July) of overflights and vessel surveys in {the Gulf of Maine, Cape Cod Bay, the Great South Channel, and the Sounds of Rhode Island, Block Island and Long Island} provide whale sighting information to the Coast Guard, NOAA Weather Radio, Mandatory Ship Reporting System, and others for broadcast purposes. {However, many right whales go undetected.}

Precautions: *{The National Marine Fisheries Service recommends the following precautionary measures be taken to avoid North Atlantic right whales.}*

When transiting right whale critical habitat and areas of recently reported right whale sightings:

As soon as possible prior to entering right whale critical habitat, check Coast Guard Broadcast Notice to Mariners, NAVTEX, NOAA Weather Radio, Cape Cod Canal Vessel Traffic Control, the Bay of Fundy Vessel Traffic Control, Mandatory Ship Reporting System, and other sources for recent right whale sighting reports.

To the extent possible, review right whale identification materials and maintain a sharp watch with lookouts familiar with spotting whales.

When planning passage through a right whale critical habitat, or a recently reported sighting location, attempt to avoid night-time transits, and whenever practical, minimize travel distances through the area. Anticipate delays due to whale sightings.

When the ability to spot whales is reduced (e.g. night, fog, rain, etc.), mariners should bear in mind that reduced speed may minimize the risk of ship strikes. Two of the best documented ship strikes involve a juvenile right whale struck and killed by a vessel proceeding at 15 knots and an unidentified whale, possibly a humpback whale, struck but not re-sighted by the vessel, also moving at 15 knots.

Local ships' pilots may also provide additional information on the {known} location of right whales and local safe vessel operating procedures.

In all coastal and offshore waters along the east coast:

If a right whale sighting is reported within 20-nautical miles of a ship's position, post a lookout familiar with spotting whales.

If a right whale is sighted from the ship, or reported along the intended track of a large vessel, mariners should exercise caution and proceed at a safe speed within a few miles of the sighting location, bearing in mind that reduced speed may minimize the risk of ship strikes.

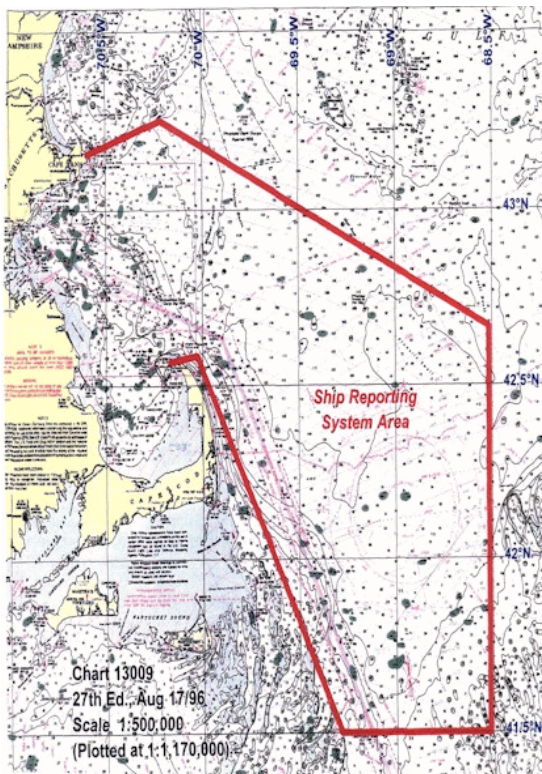
Do not assume right whales will move out of your way. Right whales, generally slow moving, seldom travel faster than 5-6 knots. Consistent with safe navigation, maneuver around observed right whales or recently reported sighting locations. It is illegal to approach closer than 500-yards of any right whale (See **50 CFR 224.103**).

Any whale accidentally struck, any dead whale carcass, and any whale observed entangled should be reported immediately to the Coast Guard noting the precise location and time of the accident or sighting. In the event of a strike or sighting, the following information should be provided to the Coast Guard:

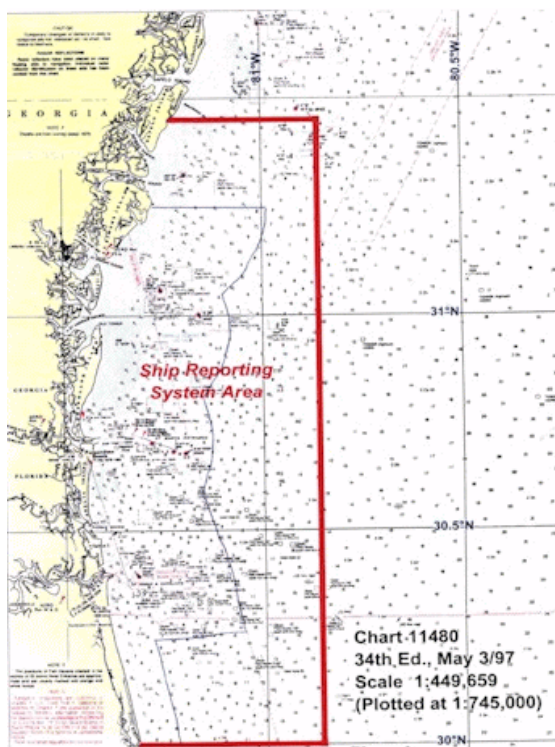
- location, date, and time of the accident or sighting, or of a carcass, or an entangled whale,
- speed of the vessel,
- size of the vessel,
- water depth,
- wind speed and direction,
- description of the impact,
- fate of the animal, and
- species and size, if known.

Right whales can occur anywhere along the east coast. Therefore, mariners are urged to exercise prudent seamanship in their efforts to avoid right whales.

Mandatory Ship Reporting Systems



WHALESNORTH



WHALESSOUTH

{Mandatory Ship Reporting Systems (**WHALESNORTH** and **WHALESSOUTH**), have been established within the {following} areas:}

Northeastern reporting system

Geographical boundaries of the northeastern area include the waters of Cape Cod Bay, Massachusetts Bay, and the Great South Channel east and southeast of Massachusetts. The coordinates (NAD 83) of the area are as follows: from a point on Cape Ann, Massachusetts at

42/39'N, 70/37'W; then northeast to

42/45'N, 70/13'W; then southeast to

42/10'N, 68/31'W; then south to

41/00'N, 68/31'W; then west to

41/00'N, 69/17'W; then northwest to

42/05'N, 70/02'W, then west to

42/04'N, 70/10'W; and then along the Massachusetts shoreline of Cape Cod Bay and Massachusetts Bay back to the point on Cape Ann at 42/39'N, 70/37'W.

Southeastern reporting system

Geographical boundaries of the southeastern area include coastal waters within about 25 nautical miles (45 kilometers) along a 90-nautical mile (170-kilometer) stretch of the Atlantic seaboard in Florida and Georgia. The area coordinates (NAD 83) extends from the shoreline east to longitude 80/51.6'W with the southern and northern boundaries at latitude 30/00'N and 31/27'N., respectively.

Mandatory Ship Reporting (MSR) systems require all vessels, 300 gross tons or greater, to report to the U.S. Coast Guard prior to entering two designated reporting areas off the east coast of the United States. (See **33 CFR 169**, chapter 2, page 120, for limits and regulations.) Sovereign immune vessels are exempt from the requirement to report, but are encouraged to participate.

The two reporting systems will operate independently of each other. The system in the

northeastern United States will operate year round and the system in the southeastern United States will operate each year from November 15 through April 15. Reporting ships are only required to make reports when entering a reporting area during a single voyage (that is, a voyage in which a ship is in the area). Ships are not required to report when leaving a port in the reporting area nor when exiting the system.

Mariners should check all MSR messages carefully before transmittal to ensure the messages include the correct address (Email: RightWhale.MSR@noaa.gov or Telex: 236737831) and correct format. Additional greetings or comments in the message will preclude message receipt by the MSR System. Failure to receive a timely return message from the MSR System, providing locations of recent right whale sightings and precautionary guidance, should be reported to the local Marine Safety Office of the US Coast Guard.

Vessels shall make reports in accordance with the format in IMO Resolution A.858 (20) in accordance with the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea 1974 (SOLAS 74). (See **33 CFR 169.135 and 169.140**, chapter 2, for additional information.) Vessels should report via INMARSAT C or via alternate satellite communications to one of the following addresses:

Email: RightWhale.MSR@noaa.gov or Telex: 236737831.

Vessels not equipped with INMARSAT C or Telex should submit reports to the U.S. Coast Guard's Communication Area Master Station Atlantic (CAMSLANT) via narrow band direct printing (SITOR) or HF voice. Vessels equipped only with VHF-FM voice communications should submit reports to the nearest U.S. Coast Guard activity or group.

Example Reports:

WHALESNORTH - To: RightWhale.MSR@noaa.gov

WHALESNORTH//
M/487654321//
A/CALYPSO/NRUS//
B/031401Z APR//
E/345//
F/15.5//
H/031410Z APR/4104N/06918W//
I/BOSTON/032345Z APR//
L/WP/4104N/06918W/15.5//
L/WP/4210N/06952W/15.5//
L/WP/4230N/07006W/15.5//

WHALESSOUTH - To: RightWhale.MSR@noaa.gov

WHALESSOUTH//
M/412345678//
A/BEAGLE/NVES//
B/270810Z MAR//
E/250//
F/17.0//
H/270810Z MAR/3030N/08052W//
I/MAYPORT/271215Z MAR//
L/RL/17.0//

Chart 13009

North Atlantic Right Whales

Browns Bank (42/38'N., 65/52'W.) as defined by the 50-fathom curve, is 56 miles long east and west, and has an average width of 15 miles. Near the western end of the bank is a sandy ridge with depths of 16 to 28 fathoms. Between the inner 50-fathom curve of Browns Bank and the coastal bank at the southwestern end of Nova Scotia are depths of 47 to 88 fathoms. Browns Bank is a feeding and mating habitat for endangered North Atlantic right whales in late summer and early fall (peak season: July through October).

Lurcher Shoal (43/50'N., 66/30'W.), 13 miles off the west coast of Nova Scotia, has a least depth of 1¼ fathoms. It is the most westerly danger off the coast of Nova Scotia in the approaches to the Bay of Fundy. It is marked by lighted whistle buoys on its southwestern and northeastern ends. Lurcher Shoal West Lighted Whistle Buoy, about 6 miles southwest of the shoal, is equipped with a racon. Lurcher Shoal is a feeding habitat for endangered North Atlantic right whales in late summer and early fall (peak season: July through October).

Chart 13260

North Atlantic Right Whales

Nova Scotia and the Bay of Fundy are described in **Pub. No. 145, Sailing Directions (Enroute), Nova Scotia and the St. Lawrence**, published by the National Imagery and Mapping Agency, Washington, D.C. The Bay of Fundy (Grand Manan Basin) is a feeding and nursery area for endangered North Atlantic right whales in the summer and fall (peak season: June through December).

Platts Bank (43/09'N., 69/37'W.), has a least found depth of 29 fathoms and lies about 40 miles southeast of Portland between the two Portland Approach Traffic Lanes. Platts Bank is a feeding area for endangered North Atlantic right whales in the spring (peak season: April through June). Banks with depths of 41 to 50 fathoms are about 5 miles northwestward, and 15 miles eastward of the shoalest part of Platts Bank.

Cashes Ledge (42/54'N., 68/57'W.), with depths of 14 fathoms in places, is about 27 miles long. **Ammen Rock**, covered 4¼ fathoms, is near the middle of the ledge. The sea breaks over this rock in heavy weather. Cashes Ledge is a feeding area for the endangered North Atlantic right whale in the summer and fall (peak season: June through mid-December).

Fippennies Ledge (42/47'N., 69/18'W.), with a least known depth of 37 fathoms, lies about 16 miles southwest of Ammen Rock. Fippennies Ledge is a feeding area for the endangered North Atlantic right whale in the summer and fall (peak season: June through mid-December).

Jeffreys Ledge extends northeastward from Cape Ann and has general depths of 16 to 30 fathoms and more. The northeastern point of the ledge is 20 miles eastward of Boon Island Light. Jeffreys Ledge is a feeding area for endangered North Atlantic right whales in the summer and late fall (peak season: July through December). However, mariners should note that right whales may occur in this area year-round.

Stellwagen Bank lies northward of Cape Cod and off the entrance to Massachusetts Bay; depths found over it are 10 to 20 fathoms. Stellwagen Bank is a feeding area for endangered North Atlantic right whales in the summer and early fall (peak season: July through September). However, mariners should note that right whales may occur in this area year-round.

Chart 13200, 13204

North Atlantic Right Whales

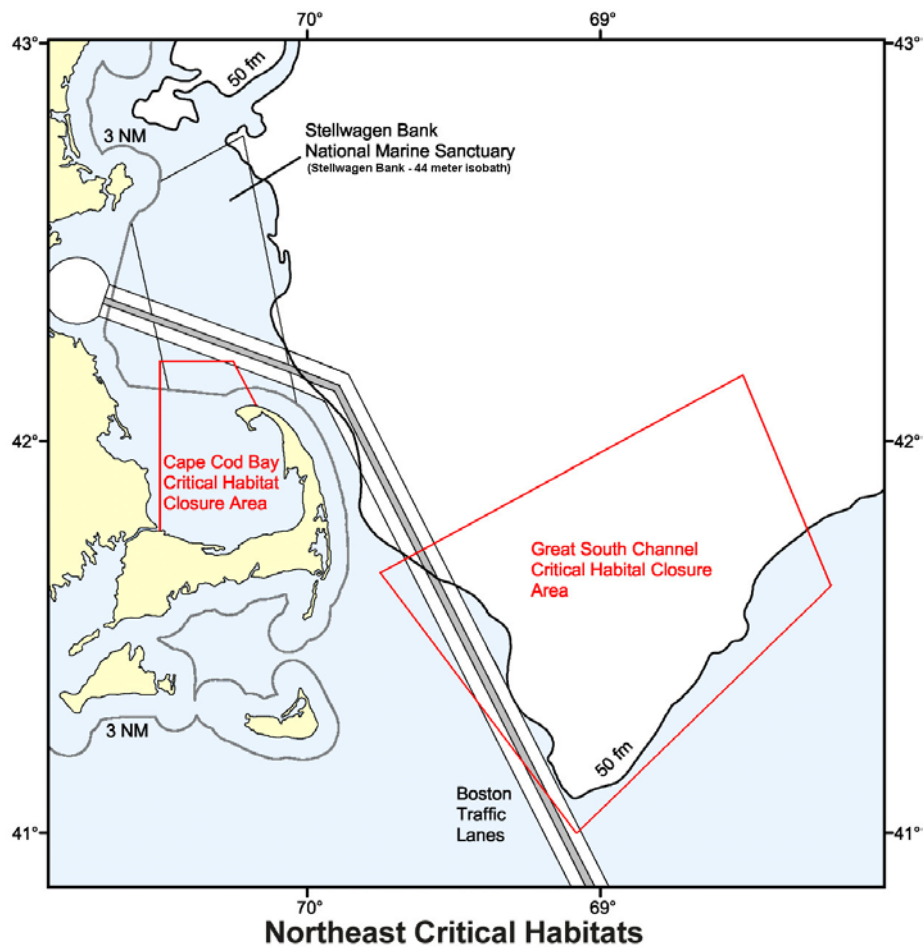
Georges Bank-Endangered North Atlantic right whales may occur along the northern edge of Georges Bank (peak season: June through July).

Great South Channel is the passage between the easternmost of the Nantucket Shoals and the westernmost shoal spots of Georges Bank. The channel is about 27 miles wide and has depths of 19 fathoms and greater throughout, with lesser depths along the eastern and western edges. The Great South Channel, is a feeding area for endangered North Atlantic right whales in spring (peak season: March through July).

North Atlantic Right Whales

Routes - Approaching or standing along the coast of Maine eastward of Portland.

Endangered North Atlantic right whales may occur year round in the Gulf of Maine.



CHAPTER 4

Charts 13394, 13396, 13398

North Atlantic Right Whales

The Bay of Fundy is a feeding and nursery area for Endangered North Atlantic right whales. Mother and calf pairs and courtship groups of right whales may occur in the following areas: north along the New Brunswick coast, along the Campobello-White Horse coast, the Lubec Narrows, the Wolves and along the Grand Manan coast; close to shore from White Head to Swallowtail (peak season: June and July, and September, October and December). **Special precautions should be taken to avoid these animals.** (See **North Atlantic right whales**, indexed as such, Chapter 3.)

CHAPTER 5

Charts 13325, 13394, 13392

North Atlantic Right Whales

The **Bay of Fundy** is a feeding and nursery area for endangered North Atlantic right whales (peak season: June through December); *{it}* includes the Grand Manan Basin, a whale conservation area designated by the Government of Canada. (**Special precautions should be taken to avoid these animals.**) (See **North Atlantic right whales**, indexed as such, Chapter 3.)

{Amended Bay of Fundy and Approaches Traffic Separation Scheme The Bay of Fundy Traffic Separation Scheme has been shifted 4 nautical miles to the East, away from the endangered North Atlantic right whale feeding grounds. The movement, mandated by the International Maritime Organization (IMO), marks the first time a world shipping lane has been altered to protect an endangered species. Effective 1 July 2003.}

CHAPTER 7

Charts 13302, 13303, 13305, 13309

Penobscot Bay Recommended Vessel Route

North Atlantic Right Whales

The Penobscot Bay & River Pilots distribute educational material to mariners in an effort to reduce right whale ship strikes.

CHAPTER 8

Chart 13292

Portland Harbor

North Atlantic Right Whales

Endangered North Atlantic right whales may occur in the vicinity of, or within the Portland approaches. The northern most portion of Jeffreys Ledge, a well known feeding area for right whales, abuts the Traffic Separation Scheme (Portland) Southern Approach Outbound Lane.

Platts Bank (43/09'N., 69/37'W) between the Portland Eastern and Southern Approaches, approximately 40 nautical miles east of Portland, is a feeding area for endangered North Atlantic right whales in the spring (peak season: April through June).

The City of Portland, Department of Transportation and Waterfront, distributes educational material to mariners in an effort to reduce right whale ship strikes.

CHAPTER 9

Charts 13283, 13274, 13285

{North Atlantic Right Whales}

{Jeffreys Ledge, approximately 30 nautical miles east of Portsmouth is a feeding area for endangered North Atlantic right whales in the summer and late fall (peak season: July through December). However, mariners should note that right whales may occur in this area year-round.}

Charts 13282, 13274

North Atlantic Right Whales

Endangered North Atlantic right whales have been reported swimming in shallow waters off of Plum Island and Ipswich, MA.

CHAPTER 11

Chart 13270

Approaching Boston from Cape Ann

North Atlantic right whales may occur in the areas of Stellwagen Bank and Jeffreys Ledge in all months, but can be most abundant in the summer through early winter, (peak season: July through December). This area has been designated as the **Gerry E. Studds-Stellwagen Bank National Marine Sanctuary**, and includes a portion of the Cape Cod Bay Critical Habitat (See **50 CFR 226.203(a) and (b)**; Chapter 2 for limits and regulations). **(Special precautions may be needed to avoid these animals.)** (See **North Atlantic right whales**, indexed as such, Chapter 3).

Approaching Boston from Cape Cod

North Atlantic right whales may occur in the Stellwagen Bank and Jeffreys Ledge areas in all months, but can be most abundant in the summer through early winter, (peak season: July through December). This area has been designated as the **Gerry E. Studds-Stellwagen Bank National Marine Sanctuary**, and includes a portion of the Cape Cod Bay Critical Habitat (See **50 CFR 226.203(a) and (b)**; Chapter 2 for limits and regulations). **(Special precautions may be needed to avoid these animals.)** (See **North Atlantic right whales**, indexed as such, Chapter 3).

The Boston Pilots distribute educational material to mariners in an effort to reduce right whale ship strikes.

CHAPTER 12

Chart 13246

Cape Cod Bay

North Atlantic Right Whales

Except for a narrow area along the west side, almost all of Cape Cod Bay lies within the federally designated critical habitat for North Atlantic right whales, the most endangered large whale species in the world (fewer than 350 animals). The designated *{Northern}* critical habitat *{is a primary winter / spring feeding area, and may be inhabited by right whales year-round.}* These slow moving animals are vulnerable to collisions with ships and this is the leading cause of documented mortality for North Atlantic right whales. It is recommended that all large vessels (over 100 gross tons) *{avoid}* operating in the critical habitat, *{and}*:

(a) Keep a watch for whales during daylight hours.

(b) Monitor NAVTEX transmissions, NOAA Weather Radio, Coast Guard Broadcast Notice to Mariners, Cape Cod Canal Vessel Traffic Control, and the Mandatory Ship Reporting System for information on the location of right whales sighted in the vicinity.

Local ships' pilots may also provide such information when it is available.

(c) If a right whale is reported within 20 nautical miles of a vessel's intended course, it is recommended that the vessel proceed with caution. It is known that right whales can accelerate to a speed

approximately 6 knots. When it is believed that a vessel will pass in close proximity of whales, when a reduction in speed will not hinder the safe operation of the vessel, it may be reasonable and prudent to slow a vessel's speed accordingly. (See **50 CFR 226.101, 226.203(b)** for habitat boundary and regulations.)

Chart 13236

Cape Cod Canal

North Atlantic Right Whales

Endangered North Atlantic right whales have been sighted within the Cape Cod Canal and in the vicinity of the east entrance.

Cape Cod Canal Marine Traffic Controllers provide information regarding North Atlantic right whale sightings and locations.

The Northeast Marine Pilots distribute educational material to mariners in an effort to reduce right whale ship strikes.

Chart 13249

Provincetown Harbor

North Atlantic Right Whales

Endangered North Atlantic right whales may occur year round in the vicinity of Race Point and Wood End.